

CLAIMS

We claim:

1 1. A method for providing information describing a file system connection between a local
2 system and a host system, said method comprising:

3 encoding the information in a metalanguage format comprising one or more
4 tags, each tag having an identifier and a set of one or more attributes, wherein the
5 encoded information comprises a file system connection descriptor; and
6 parsing the project topology descriptor according to the metalanguage tags.

Sub AI 7
1 2. A data structure embodied in a computer-readable storage medium, said data structure
2 representing information describing a file system connection between a local file system
3 located on a local system and a host file system located on a host system, wherein said data
4 structure comprises a file system connection descriptor, said file system connection descriptor
5 comprising:

6 a local system data structure representing the local file system;
7 a host system data structure representing the host file system; and
8 a mapping data structure representing a mapping between the local file system
9 and the host file system.

1 3. The file system connection descriptor of claim 2 wherein the mapping data structure
2 comprises:

3 a local file extension data structure storing a local file extension;
4 a host file pattern data structure storing a pattern describing a host file to which
5 the local file extension will be applied; and
6 a transfer type data structure storing a transfer type that defines how data will be
7 transferred between the host system and the local system for this mapping.

1 4. The file system connection descriptor of claim 3 wherein the mapping data structure
2 further comprises:

3 a host codepage data structure storing an identification of a host codepage in
4 which data in the host file is encoded; and

5 a local-codepage data structure storing an identification of a local codepage in
6 which data in a local file is encoded.

Sub
A1
2 5. The file system connection descriptor of claim 2 wherein the host system data structure
comprises:

3 a data structure storing an identification of the host system;

4 a data structure storing an identification of a user of the host system;

5 a data structure storing an identification of a preferred drive on the local system;

6 and

7 a data structure storing an indication that the preferred drive be automatically
8 connected by default when a remote connection is established with the host system.

9
10
11 6. The file system connection descriptor of claim 2 wherein the host system data structure
12 further comprises:

13 a data structure storing an identification of a list of qualifier data structures, wherein
14 each qualifier data structure stores a qualifier name, a name identifying a directory on
15 the host system, and an identification of file attributes of a file located in the host
16 system directory.

17
18 7. The file system connection descriptor of claim 2 encoded in a tagged metalanguage
19 document comprising one or more tags, each tag having an identifier and a set of one or more
20 attributes.

Sub¹
Al²

Figure 1. The structure of the proposed model.